

"Dedicated to Public Service"

THE RADIATOR



W6RHC
IRL #8170
Echolink #322788



<http://www.gearsw6rhc.org>

P.O.Box 508 Chico, CA 95927-0508

Founded: August 13, 1939

OCTOBER, , 2015

Coming Events

O.A.R.S. GENERAL MEETING

Second Friday, every month, at 7:00 p.m., at St. Paul's Church Parrish Hall, 1430 Pine St., Oroville

G.A.R.S. Second Wednesday, each month, General Meeting, Lutheran Church Hall, Artois; 7:00

G.E.A.R.S General Meeting, third Friday each month, at Butte County Search and Rescue Building, Chico. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Butte A.R.E.S. MEET: fourth Friday, monthly, at Butte County Search and Rescue Building.

FCC EXAMS - GEARS VEC

First Sunday of every even numbered month.

At the Butte County Search and Rescue Building. Written test at 2:00 p.m. For information or pre-registration call Tom Rider -W6JS; 530-893-9211

Club Events:

News and items of interest
GEARS Calendar...all inside.

Website: www.gearsw6rhc.org



Picture courtesy EVARC

The Prez' Says:

Hello everyone; It's October and there are some things on my mind. First, I hope everyone had as much fun at the Steak Bake over to Jensen Park as I did. Evelyn Weir won the tri-band handy-talky. Lucky lady! The steaks were good, the chef did a great job, the side dishes plentiful, and the fox was chased all over the park.

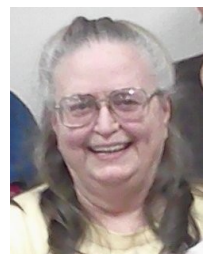
Gene Wright WA6ZRT has arranged for our October program. Thank you Gene. Gene has been busy with teaching the class for new technicians. He's got eight students, they meet weekly at the Search & Rescue Building and he is much encouraged by the participation. He has had help from other hams in the area. Thanks to you all. We need more hams.

This is the month that we traditionally recruit a nominating committee to find candidates to fill our club officer slots for the next year(s). SOOOO; think about if you want to be on the nominating committee and whether this is the year you finally get your feet wet and run for office. Being an officer is a lot of fun and Dorothy takes your picture often to put in the newsletter. The slate of candidates will be presented to club membership in November with the vote in December.

We got a little rain and I was listening to thunder while I was on my 80M net earlier. My rain gauge was inside for service so I'm not sure how much rainfall totaled. The weather guessers are forecasting more rain on Sunday---let's keep our fingers crossed. I don't think there was enough precipitation to wash all the dust off antennas, insulators and such. We all hope for lots more rain this winter so the lakes all refill.

Until the meeting (October 16) or I need to send a special bulletin, good radio to you all.

Anna KG6ZOA



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING:
September 18, 2015**

ATTENDANCE Treasurer not present.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:
none

OLD BUSINESS:

Vote to raise club dues will have to be by a secret ballot.

For those who want the club news letter sent by the mail system there will be a charge, but for those who get the news letter by email there will be no charge.

We will be looking for new ways to decrease our expenses.

IRLP: Scott Peterson and Michael Favor will be working on the system to get it operational again.

The updated application form is on the GEARS web site.

NEW BUSINESS:

Scott is donating a FT-991 to the ARES van.

ADJOURNMENT: 18:53 hr.

Dale Anderson,
Secretary

**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
September 18, 2015**

PROGRAM: none

ATTENDANCE: Treasurer not present.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

North Valley Animal Rescue fund raiser at the Chico airport.

VEC: Currently there are seven students with possibly one more.

MINUTES: Approved the minutes from Aug meeting.

TREASURER:

It is in the newsletter but it is just readable.

OLD BUSINESS:

Steak Bake at Jensen Park Gazebo area.

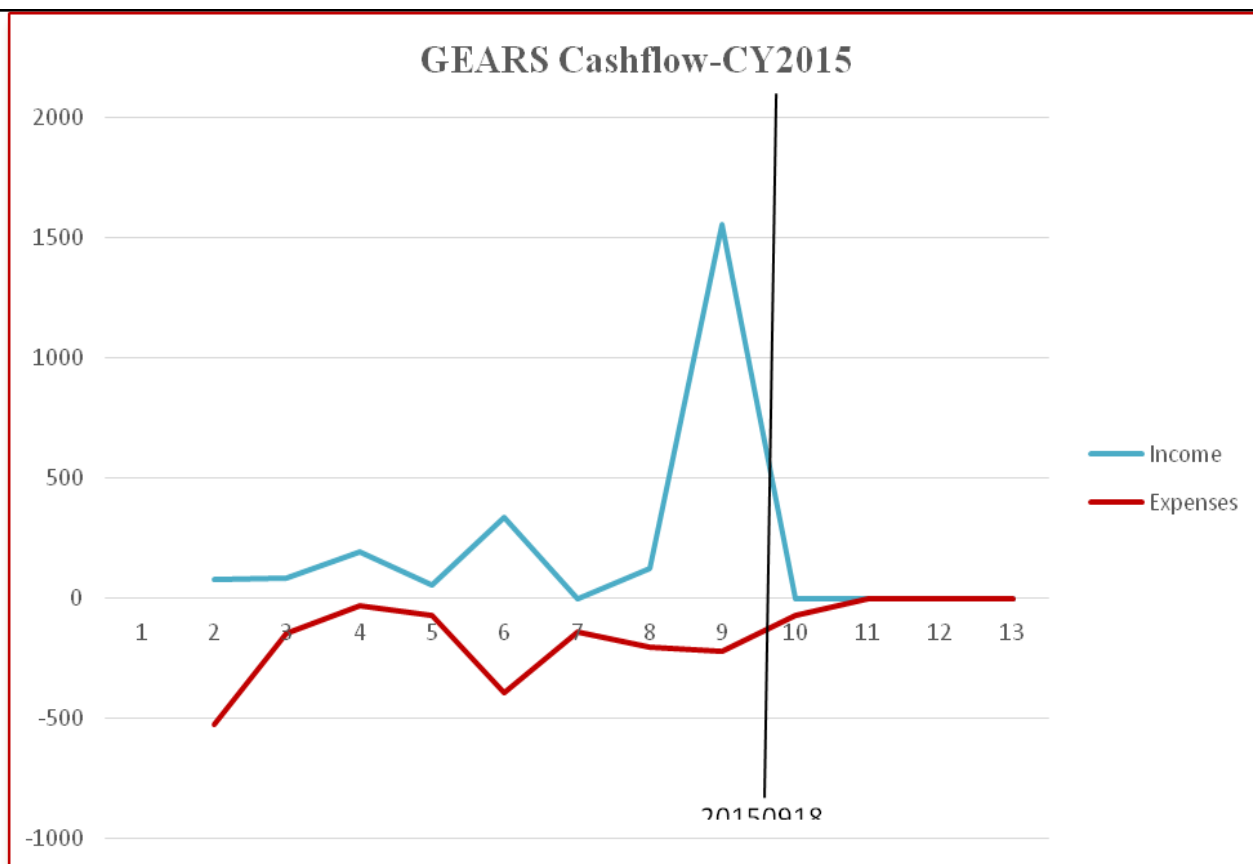
NEW BUSINESS:

none

ADJOURNMENT: 19:45 hr.

Dale Anderson,
Secretary





ARRL Board Approves Dues Hike.

Meeting over the weekend in Windsor, Connecticut, the ARRL Board of Directors has approved a \$10 increase in the League's annual dues rate, effective January 1, 2016. In doing so, the Board adopted a recommendation of the Administration & Finance Committee. ARRL basic dues have been held at \$39 a year since 2001. Sumner said the League has done as much as it can to hold off a dues increase for more than a decade, but now it's a necessity, not an option. "One of the most difficult decisions a membership organization faces is a dues increase," he said. "Over the past 14 years we have managed to hold the increase in expenses to just 19 percent, against a US inflation rate of 32 percent over the same period."

RON MURDOCK (W6KJ) SECTION MANAGER

Effective October 1, Ron Murdock, our section manager for nearly 8 years has retired as Sacramento Valley Section Manager.

Carol Milazzo, KP4MD, has assumed Section Manager duties. . Our thanks to Ron for the many years he has served the Sacramento Valley and a warm welcome to Carol.

You are filling "big shoes" KP4MD, but we hear you are totally up to the task .

Farewell to Ron, Welcome Carol.

Who Really Owns a Nonprofit?

GEARS is a 501(c)(3)...non profit corporation—What does that really mean to GEARS and to our members?

The concept of who owns a nonprofit organization can be hard for some to grasp, especially given that the answer is, “No one...and *everyone!*” We encounter this confusion with new clients on a fairly regular basis. And, given people’s understanding of how basic business operates, it is understandable. In order to fully appreciate the concept of “non-ownership”, it is helpful to first talk about the various types of business entities. Then, we’ll look at organizational purpose. By the end of the article, it should make a lot more sense.

There are several different types of business entities. For-profit companies make up most of them. Here are a few (there are others)...all of these have an owner or owners:

Sole Proprietorship: One person who conducts business for profit. The sole owner assumes complete responsibility for all liabilities and debts of the business.

General Partnership: Two or more individuals as co-owners of a for-profit business.

Corporation (for-profit): The corporation itself assumes all liabilities and debts of the Corporation. A corporation is owned by shareholders. A shareholder enjoys protection from the corporation’s debts and liabilities.

S-Corporation: A corporation may seek to obtain “S Corporation” status for federal income tax purposes. The income of an S Corporation is taxed only once: at the employee or shareholder level.

Limited Liability Company: An LLC is a formal association which combines the advantage of a corporation’s limited liability and the flexibility and single taxation of a general partnership. An LLC has members rather than shareholders. With the exception of the LLC, the business entities listed above **cannot** be used for nonprofit organizations. Even the use of an LLC is extremely rare; all nonprofit LLC members must be recognized 501(c)(3) organizations, not people or other entity types.

The most popular business entity for nonprofits is the **nonprofit corporation**. This type of corporation is different from a typical for-profit corporation or S-Corporation. Those have shareholders (owners). A nonprofit corporation has no owners whatsoever, only *stakeholders*. A stakeholder is not an owner, but rather someone who has a stake in the successful operation of the organization. Stakeholders could be members of the nonprofit, or even beneficiaries of the nonprofit’s activities. One thing stakeholders have in common: they have no legal ability to profit personally...hence, *nonprofit*. A nonprofit corporation is formed to carry out a public purpose, whether that be religious, educational, charitable, scientific or whatever. It is prohibited from acting in a manner that results in private inurement (profit) to individuals.

How can that be? Someone has to own it, right? No, not really. The nonprofit organization is not “owned” by the person or persons that started it. It is a public organization that belongs to the public at-large. The parties responsible to operate the organization for the stakeholders are the members of the board of directors.

Also, a nonprofit corporation cannot be sold. It is simply not possible. If a nonprofit corporation were to “close down”, or dissolve, the board of directors of the nonprofit must distribute all of the nonprofit’s assets to another nonprofit corporation after all debts have been settled.

“No one...and everyone!” Hopefully now, it is much clearer what we mean.

Continued on next page

How to Protect Your Nonprofit's Board Members

Your board of directors is one of the most important assets your nonprofit has. Assuming they understand their role and are there for the right reasons, your board members provide invaluable insight, direction and oversight. They volunteer their time and expertise, usually for little more than a pat on the back. They also assume a certain level of liability in exchange for their efforts. The old phrase, *"No good deed goes unpunished"*, is not something you want to see come true. Let's explore how to protect those who give of their time to your organization.

Understanding the issues. The first step to properly protecting your board members is to educate them as to what they are responsible for. It is discouraging to see the level of ignorance that many boards operate under. We frequently encounter boards where some members are merely placeholders who are doing a favor for the founder. They rarely participate in substantive discussions or planning, nor are they consulted with by the program director. They have no idea that there is any liability to them, but there is. This liability usually falls into three categories: 1) corporate (state), 2) federal (IRS) and, 3) general liability. Let's take a closer look at each:

1. **Corporate liability:** Board members are the legal, governing body of a nonprofit corporation. They collectively represent the organization and its interests. Each nonprofit corporation is incorporated in a particular state, according to that state's corporate law. Board members are responsible to make sure the corporation follows state law and that it follows its bylaws. It is not terribly uncommon to hear of court cases involving other board members, or members of the public, accusing the organization of not abiding by its bylaws. And, if the corporation is an employer, the board members have a fiduciary responsibility to ensure that employment taxes and related things are properly handled.
2. **Federal liability:** Fiduciary liability carries over into the federal arena. In addition to fiduciary issues, the IRS also holds the board accountable for operating under the regulations and limitations of Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code. This means that your board is responsible for ensuring your organization's programs are (and continue to be) operated for exclusively tax-exempt purposes. While there are no fines associated with falling short of the mark, your board doesn't want to be tagged as the ones responsible for causing the organization to lose its tax-exempt status. Your board members are also directly responsible for setting appropriate compensation arrangements at arms-length. As we discussed in last week's installment, the IRS can and will hold individual board members personally liable if they find what they consider excessive compensation, particularly if not set at arms-length. Under Intermediate Sanctions, these penalties can be substantial.
3. **General liability:** This involves issues like gross negligence. Board members can be held liable for bad things they didn't take steps to prevent or eliminate. Examples include not screening childcare workers or not fixing that faulty handrail on the stairway of your facility.
4. **Get protection.** The best and most important protection is education. Knowledge is empowering. The more your board knows, the better. The existence of liability sometimes scares-off otherwise qualified, potentially valuable board members, but it need not. I serve on 3 nonprofit boards, fully understanding the liability that comes with that. Why am I willing to do it? Because I know what I am responsible for. And as a result, I am able to fully exercise my responsibility in a way that best benefits the organization I serve while reducing my real liability exposure to nearly nothing. What else can you do? It is a good idea to look into liability insurance for your officers and directors. It is relatively inexpensive and can go a long way toward providing protection to those who serve. If your organization already has general liability coverage (which it should), your board members may already be covered...or may be added at little additional cost. Just having that coverage is often enough to provide assurance to your board members that you appreciate their commitment enough to cover their backs financially.

Don't let the concern of liability keep great directors from serving your organization! Liability is manageable. Like everything else, the more you know, the more you can do.

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This article contained on page 4 & 5 is taken directly from "The Foundation Group" August, 2015 Newsletter; The Foundation Group has provided incorporation and 501(c)(3) application services to over 13,000 startups since 1995, maintaining a 100% IRS approval rate along the way. Their main office is in Nashville, Tn.

ARRL VEC Reminds License Applicants: The FCC is Now Paperless!

The ARRL VEC is reminding Amateur Radio license applicants that the FCC no longer routinely prints or mails license documents. In an effort to streamline its procedures and save money, the FCC went "paperless" in February 2015.

"Customer contact with the VEC has tripled since this change, as many amateurs have not heard of the change or do not understand the FCC procedures for obtaining a license copy," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM. She said the most frequently asked question comes from Universal Licensing System users who have applied for renewal or modification, but then think the transaction was not completed because they did not get a new copy of their license in the mail.

"Once we look up the info, our answer is nearly always that the requested transaction actually was completed and appears in the FCC database, but they won't be getting a copy of the updated license in the mail," Somma said. Less frequently, her department hears from exam applicants who ask why they did not receive a copy of their license after they passed the test.

To help clarify things, Somma has created a web page, [How to Obtain an Official FCC License Copy](#), devoted to explaining the various ways a licensee can get an official license document from the FCC. An official license displays the FCC logo and the "Official Copy" watermark across each page.

A [printer-friendly version](#) of the instructions is available on the ARRL website.

VEC continued

- ▶ [Apply for a New License](#)
- ▶ [Set Paper Authorization Preferences](#)
- ▶ [Download Electronic Authorizations](#)
- ▶ [Associate Licenses With Your FRN](#)

At least for now, though, clicking the "**here**" hyperlink will take you to the Paper Authorization Preferences" page. To continue receiving paper license documents,

click "Yes." Clicking the "**now**" hyperlink will take you to the "Download Authorizations" page.

Continued page 10



Caps embroidered with your name and your call sign may be ordered by contacting WA6ZRT -Gene Telephone #530 -345-3515

VEC TESTING
2:00 p.m.
October 4, 2015
December 6, 2015

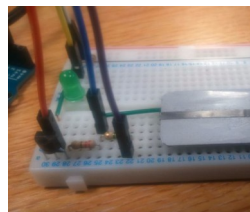
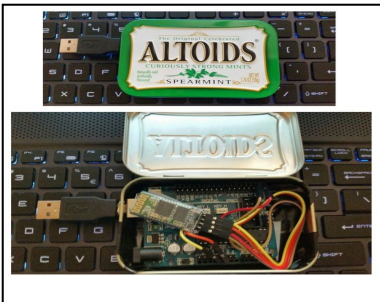
**AT BUTTE COUNTY
SEARCH & RESCUE
BUILDING**

**All Classes
Technician, General and
Extra.**

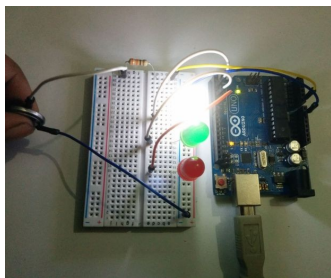
Contact:
Tom Rider-W6JS
530-893-9211
Rustyboy rider@aol.com

Arduino creators, developers, experimenters, many not surprisingly are Hams, are awesome individuals exercising creative talent in ways generations ago society could have never perceived, in fact even in the 1940's the artifacts now viewed as sort of "everyday", or antique, were then viewed as science fiction, the venue of Buck Rogers, his jet pack on his back, flying effortlessly through space. As I scroll through the many hundreds of inventive items posted on line, so numerous, of much ingenious creativity, I am constrained what to choose, hampered by space limitations, so this month I am providing a select few links. These are primarily novice level to entice our newest Tech wanna-bees, (although older hams might be spurred to reassert their superior skills, to avert any suspicion they are not up to the really tough stuff coming along!) Interested? Go on line to www.instructables.com, search the site for Arduino, Metalwork, welding, or robots, among the many choices... enjoy. Careful though, Arduino **are** addictive.

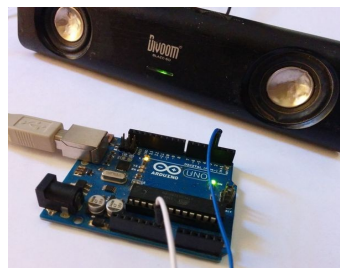
Quick type a new way to type -by sarju7 -
in Arduino



Capacitive switch for Arduino -by



Arduino battery tester by -This is Steve-



Tone generator by -This is Steve-in Arduino

**For Starters in Arduino& for fun,
search for these:**

Capacitance Meter;

Capacitive Switch for Arduino;

Wireless Car Parking camera;

Handheld LED lamp;

Measure Capitanace w/Arduino

LED Rubiks Cube, with Arduino

LED Cube Code Generator, 4 x4 x 4;

Robots and RFID lockboxes;

Beginning Arduino;

**And though not "Arduino" -this is
metalworking section, but very
interesting try Stick Welder from
old Microwave; Instructables,
Metal Working**

**last & for fun: :Cat Laser Enter-
tainer Robot by .mkarvoven in
Arduino**

START AN AMATEUR RADIO VIRTUOUS CYCLE

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

On the ham_instructor Yahoo Group (https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ham_instructor/info) recently, we talked about the classes that we are going to be offering this fall. About his Tech class, Bob, K0NR, noted, "Currently have about 30 students signed up. We keep thinking we'll run out of interested people but they keep coming."

I've noticed the same thing here, too. I keep thinking that I am going to run out of people to teach, but I have no problem at all filling my classes. In fact, I'd go so far as to say that the more people that have taken my class, the more people there are that want to take it.

Of course, this makes perfect sense. If there are more people out there who have amateur radio licenses, there are more people out there talking about amateur radio, and actually doing amateur radio. And, the more people out there talking about and doing amateur radio, the more likely it is that other people will become interested in amateur radio and get their licenses as well.

It's an amateur radio "virtuous circle."

What does this tell you? Well, if you're in a place where amateur radio seems to be dying out, or belong to a club that is slowly fading away, start a class! I think every club should hold classes at least once a year, even if that first class has only one or two students. Those first few students are the start of your virtuous circle.

Don't know how to start a class? I can help you there. Start by reading my blog post, "Teaching a one-day class" (<http://www.kb6nu.com/teaching-a-one-day-tech-class/>). It has a lot of practical information, including tips on how to select a venue, how to publicize the class, how to get people to sign up for the class, and finally, how to teach the class.

You might also want to join the ham instructor mailing list I mentioned earlier. It's a relatively low-volume list, but the subscribers have a lot of experience that you can tap into.

Also, get a copy of my free Tech study guide (<http://www.kb6nu.com/study-guides/>). Not to brag (well, OK I am bragging), but it I really think that it's the best study guide for a one-day class. The study guide presents the topics in exactly the same order as I cover them in class. Read through it and you'll see what I mean.

If you need more help, or even just some encouragement, e-mail me, and I'll do what I can to help you. Seriously.

PACIFICON ARRL CONVENTION October 16-18 , San Ramon, CA

Convention, will be held at the San Ramon Marriott 2600 Bishop Drive, San Ramon, CA.

The Talk-In frequency will be on the Mount Diablo Repeater at 147.060 with a PL 100 Hz, call sign W6P. Pacificon .

The GEARS Newsletter Staff:**Editor and Publisher**.....Dorothy Post**Printing & Distribution** snail mail: Evelyn Weir**Website**...Stephen McDermott W6AKF

The Radiator is a monthly publication of the Golden Empire Amateur Radio Society (GEARS). It is the policy of the Editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio, of interest to GEARS members, and space is available. Please send all submissions to the Editor – Dorothy Post by the last day of the month through the following medium: E-mail: dj@posthouse.us

Club Officers: (Board of Directors)

PresidentAnna Horn –KG6ZOA

Vice President..... Scott Petersen-KE6VUS

SecretaryDale Anderson-KK6EVX

Treasurer.....Rick Hubbard-KI6VOS

Past PresidentGene Wright-WA6ZRT

Director..... Tom Rider-W6JS

Director.....Stephen McDermott W6AKF

Director.....Stephen Wolske-KF6HSS

Club Meetings**General Meeting** Third Friday 7:00 PM**Board Meeting** Third Friday 6:00 PM**GEARS Club Net****Tuesdays** 8:00 PM 146.850 MHz-PL 110.9

GARS Club Net:Monday,19:30 147.105+Mhz PL 110.0

Sacramento Valley Traffic Net**Nightly** 9:00 PM 146.850 MHz-PL 110.9**ARES Nets:****Butte** Mondays 20:00 146.850 MHz-PL 110.9**Yuba Sutter** Thursdays 19:00 146.085+MHz PL 127.3**Glenn** Thursday 19:30 147.105 MHz +PL 100.0**Other Nets:**

Sac Valley Section Net—7:00 PM 2nd Wed of the month 146.085 MHz+PL 127.3

440 Wed. Night 8:00 PM Wednesday 440.650 MHz**Golden Bear** 7:00 PM Daily 3975 kHz**Willie Net** 8:00 PM Mondays 1930 kHz**Western Public Service System (WPSS)**

Winter 5:00 – 7:30 PM 3952 kHz

Summer 6:00 – 8:30 PM 3952 kHz

ARISS (International Space Station) Uplink 144.490 MHz Downlink 145.800 MHz

Hope-1 satellite: all uplinks are in 145Mhz band:

All downlinks are in 435Mhz band

...California Traffic Net: 3906 KHz nightly @6:00 pm

For traffic listing & @6:30 p.m. for roll call.

ARRL VEC continued from page 6:

On the "Download Authorizations" page, scroll down to the "Filter by Radio Service" box (remember, the ULS is *not* just for the Amateur Service). First, *highlight your call sign* and then click "ADD>" to put your call sign into the "Authorizations to Download" column. Scroll down a little further and click "DOWNLOAD>" to create an official FCC license PDF document that can be saved or printed.

When modifying, renewing, or requesting a duplicate license copy, a licensee who already has an FCC Registration Number (FRN) and provides a valid e-mail address under "Applicant Information" while logged into the ULS system will receive an official ULS-generated electronic authorization via e-mail.

All Amateur Radio exam applicants should include a valid e-mail address on their NCVEC 605 form, in order to receive a copy of their license electronically.

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Published in the ARRL newsletter, September 2015

Sunday, October 4, 2015 December 6, 2015	2:00 p.m.	VEC—Exams	Butte Co. Search & Rescue Building 2591 Morrow Lane, Chico	Tom Rider 530-893-9211
Wednesday October 14, 2015	Board-6:00 p.m. General Meeting 7:00 .	GARS-Glenn Glenn Amateur Radio Society General Meeting, & Amateur Radio Emergency Services	Lutheran Church Hall: 565 Main Street Artois	Albert Leyva 530-567-5979
Friday, October 9 ,2015		OARS Oroville Amateur Radio Society General Meeting	St Paul's Church Parrish Hall 1430 Pine Street Oroville	Ron Osborne-kd7uhf 530 589 1834 kd7uhf@yahoo.com
Friday October 16 ,2015	Board-6:00 p.m. General Meeting 7:00 Doors open 5:30 p.m. .	GEARS Golden Empire Amateur Radio Society General Meeting/Elections	Butte County Search and Rescue Building 2591 Morrow Lane Chico	Anna Horn -kg6zoa 530-877-5939

Space Weather News for Oct. 1, 2015

<http://spaceweather.com>

Dark Plasma Eruption: On Sept.30th, a massive plume of dark plasma erupted from sun's western limb. A bright CME flew away from the blast site and might sideswipe Earth's magnetic field on Oct. 3rd. Check <http://spaceweather.com> for geomagnetic storm and aurora forecasts.

Daytime Meteor Shower: As October begins, a radar in Canada is detecting echoes from a fairly strong meteor shower. The source appears to be debris from asteroid 2005 UD. Don't bother looking for these meteors because they are streaking across the day-time sky, overwhelmed by the glare of the sun. You can, however, hear their radar echoes. Visit <http://spaceweather.com> for live audio and more information.

"Spring forward, Fall Back"

Daylight Saving Time changes November 1, 2015

Set your clocks back one hour